

Literati launching newest review find pleasures double second time around

It's a gamble," said editor **Alexander Burnham** of the new Washington Book Review being launched, in a second version, at Politics and Prose bookstore Friday night. Mr. Burnham, formerly managing editor of Dodd, Mead and Co., lives in Stamford, Conn., and will commute to the Review's F Street office when needed.

"We did it for love," said associate editor **Eli Flam**, who doubles as chief of the American Republics Division for the Voice of America. Two sponsors of an aborted 1979 edition, writers **Ed Scullen** and **Kevin Bezner**, are deputy editors this time around. Many among the 50 well-wishers at the party turned out to lead double lives.

Former CIA head William Colby, consultant and author, stopped by

primarily because his son **Paul**, an assistant attorney in the District Attorney's office, is a friend of Mr. Burnham's son. Attorney **Peter Davis**, Paul's roommate, was also at the event. Mr. Colby is conspiring with British writer Anthony Cave Brown to write a book about U.S. involvement in Vietnam. **Sally Shelton-Colby**, his wife, is on the board of directors of the National Project for Democracy and a vice president of Bankers Trust in New York. They have a house in Washington and an apartment in New York.

"I read The Economist on the Friday night shuttle," she said. "I read the Far Eastern Economic Review," he said. She just finished, with high praise, Alan Riding's "Distant Neighbors," about Mexico. "We plan a book together down the

road," they said in tandem, "about policy making." Mrs. Shelton-Colby, a former U.S. ambassador to the Eastern Caribbean, was the probable subject of "Diplomatic Immunity," a novel about just such a woman ambassador.

"This city has more people with advanced degrees than any other," said Mr. Burnham, making the rounds. "If this city can't take a book review like this one, I give up on the rest of the country. . . . The New York Review of Books" — which this review resembles except for a photo on the cover — "is the playground of intellectuals. We'll be the publication for intelligent readers. The gamble is we don't have this fellow from Boston who bought U.S. News & World Report. We're just hoping enough people send in \$16."

—Ann Geracimos